

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER  
LISTED

NOV 30 2005

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-9000a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

### 1. Name of Property

Historic name	Schmitt House
---------------	---------------

Other name/site number 005-0260-1409

## 2. Location

Street & number 1110 W. Division St. ☐ not for publication

City or town Atchison ☐ vicinity

State Kansas      Code KS      County Atchison      Code 005      Zip code 66002

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☒ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title  
Kansas State Historical Society

Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)

Signature of commenting official /Title

Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau

#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I herby certify that the property is

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

- ☐ entered in the National Register. \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ determined eligible for the National Register \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ determined not eligible for the National Register \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ removed from the National Register \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Schmitt House

Name of Property

Atchison Co., Kansas

County and State

## 5. Classification

### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private  
☐ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

### Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)  
☐ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

### Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2		total

### Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

### Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

## 6. Function or Use

### Historic Functions

(Enter Categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single Dwelling

### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single Dwelling

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Classical Revival

### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation: Brick, Stucco

Walls: Weatherboard

Roof: Asphalt

Other:

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Schmitt House  
Name of Property

Atchison Co., Kansas  
County and State

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register)

- ☐ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

### Period of Significance

c. 1870-1911

### Significant Dates

c. 1870, 1911

### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

### Cultural Affiliation

### Architect/Builder

Schmitt, Paul

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey  
# \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering  
Record # \_\_\_\_\_

### Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

Schmitt House  
Name of Property

Atchison Co., Kansas  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1	5	3	1	6	9	8	0	4	3	8	2	1	8	0
Zone	Easting				Northing										
2															

3															
Zone	Easting				Northing										
4															

☐ See continuation sheet

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

## 11. Form Prepared By

Name/title Kathy L. Morgan  
Organization Morgan Consulting Date July 17, 2004  
Street & number 1207 W. 14<sup>th</sup> St. Telephone 316-267-8821  
City or town Wichita State KS Zip code 67203

## Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

#### Additional items

(Check with SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

## Property Owner

Name William Forsberg  
Street & number 1110 W. Division St. Telephone 913-367-3672  
City or town Atchison State KS Zip code 66002

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

Schmitt House  
Name of property

Atchison County, Kansas  
County and State

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> and EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> REVIVALS: Vernacular Neoclassical I-House

**Architectural Description Overview**

The Schmitt House at 1110 W. Division Street is a Victorian-era house built in ca. 1870 and remodeled in 1911 with Neoclassical detailing. Much of the detailing, both interior and exterior was hand crafted by Paul Schmitt during the 1911 remodeling. The original house is a one-and-one-half story side gable massed plan. It remains unknown who was the original builder of the property. The roof was reconfigured to integrate the full front porch with its Ionic columns and a projecting bay window. A one-storey addition with a shed roof was made on the south side. A smaller enclosed porch was added on this addition after 1961<sup>1</sup>. Another bay window was added on the east elevation. The property also has a structure now converted to a garage and workshop that was the icehouse and meat storage for the grocery located at the corner of 11<sup>th</sup> and Division. The structures are wood frame with rubble limestone foundations.

The Schmitt House is a wood frame structure with wood lapped siding. The side gable roof has a centered large inset gabled dormer with cornice returns on each side. A brick chimney remains near the ridge of the north gable dormer, but no fireplace remains in the house. The gable ends have cornice returns and eave overhangs have a wide frieze board with dentils. The roof materials are composite asphalt shingles. The original glass panes of the windows are intact as are the 1911 wood sashes and frames from when Paul Schmitt changed the exterior. The transoms and the upper sashes of the dormer windows have geometric divided lights. The lower sashes are single-pane. The balustrade has this pattern replicated adjoining the Ionic columns. The floor is wood tongue-and-grove, but has been covered with green indoor/outdoor carpeting. The porch sits on a brick foundation.

The site also includes a side gabled, one-and-one-half-story, wood lap sided ice house and meat locker that was built about the same time as the main structure. The interior of the structure is finished with dimensional wood and still has evidence of the meat storage function in the first floor. Along the south interior wall, the meat hooks are still attached to the wall. The loft is accessed by a wood ladder. A wall dormer on the west elevation has the hinged door where ice would have been brought in to the loft. There are smaller hinged doors in both gable ends that also allowed access for moving the ice around. The double-leaf glass-and-wood panel garage doors are hinged and open out from the center. With the ice storage in the half-story, the first floor was kept at an ideal temperature for meat storage. A shed roof structure was added to the north end of the icehouse and a five foot shed addition was added to the first floor of the icehouse on the west side to accommodate automobiles after the structure stopped functioning as an icehouse and meat locker.

---

<sup>1</sup> Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1924 amended 1961, New York, pg 32.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 2

Schmitt House  
Name of property

Atchison County, Kansas  
County and State

## Main Structure

### North Façade

The house is oriented to Division Street and contains a large inset gable dormer with prominent cornice returns. The entrance to the house is accentuated by a centered pediment resting on Ionic columns. The volutes on the column capital are cocked. The pediment has dentiling along the rake and a wood scroll decoration in the tympanum. The balustrade has square balusters and a geometric panel that is replicated from the windows. The first floor is asymmetrical with a single window on one side of the door and a bay window on the other side. The front door has a classical door surround with a cornice, curved console, unadorned entablature, dentils, diamond pane sidelights and glass door with a modern storm door. The window to the east of the front door has four lights and a diamond paned transom. The three-sided bay window has oversize single pane lower sash with a geometric paned transom. The center panel is a double window with single pane transoms.

The inset gable dormer has a Palladian window with a dentiled drip molding and keystone. The mullions are Doric pilasters. The inset balustrade matches the porch balustrade with the exception of the use of square Doric piers instead of Ionic columns. The flanking windows match the side windows of the three-sided bay window in the first floor. The center window is one-over-one wood sash.

### East Façade

The east façade gable is asymmetrical with the rake of the north side being longer and having a deeper cornice return over the porch. The south rake is in proportion to the cornice returns on the square bay window in the first floor. This bay is triple window with the central window projecting from the plane of the wall atop two curved consoles with a pedimented window hood. The side windows are in the wall plane. The center window is the same configuration as the single window in the first floor of the north elevation. The flanking windows are diamond-pane upper sash over single-pane lower sash. There is a smaller one-over-one wood sash window beneath the wide frieze of the north end cornice return. There is a tripartite window in the gable end. The side windows are a geometric light, single sash with a full height one-over-one sash center window. There is a one-over-one wood sash window in the one-story shed roof addition.

### South Façade

The south façade has a one-story, shed roof room addition that runs approximately two-thirds the length of the house. This room appears on the 1916 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. There are single one-over-one wood sash windows on either side of the enclosed porch. The coal chute opening remains in the foundation wall beneath the window on the west end of the south elevation. The enclosed porch off this addition does not appear on any Sanborn Maps up through the 1961 amended map, indicating it was constructed after 1961. The porch is enclosed with modern metal storm windows and vertical lap wood siding. The door opens off the east end of the porch.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 3

Schmitt House  
Name of property

Atchison County, Kansas  
County and State

The gabled wall dormer has wide frieze boards and deep cornice returns. A French door opens out to the roof of the addition. A one-over-one sash window pairs with the door and is situated directly beneath the dormer cornice return. A smaller one-over-one wood sash window is positioned beneath the cornice return to the west of the door.

**West Façade**

The windows in the west façade match the configuration of the single window in the first floor of the north elevation. There is a single one-over-one sash window in the gable end and a smaller single sash window that lights the interior stairs up to the second floor.

**Interior**

The first floor arrangement consists of a parlor, living room, dining room, kitchen and bathroom. The kitchen and bath have been updated, probably at the time the closed-in porch was added after 1961. The floors and stairs have been carpeted. Interior walls are painted plaster and the ceilings in the dining room, living room and parlor have been textured. The clear-varnished wood trim has egg-and-dart crown molding throughout the first floor and the fluted Doric colonnades between the dining room, parlor and living room have a wide entablature. Paul Schmitt added these details during the 1911 remodeling. There are two bedrooms and a bathroom on the second floor. The bedroom ceilings are formed by the roofline with the gable dormers providing an interesting space in the room. The second floor window and door trim are plain.

The house has a partial basement and at one time had a coal furnace which has been replaced by a modern gas furnace and central air conditioning. The opening for the coal chute, though not operable, remains in the foundation wall on the south elevation.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 1

Schmitt House  
Name of property

Atchison, Kansas  
County and State

**Statement of Significance Overview**

The Schmitt House is being nominated under Criterion C as a good example of vernacular Neoclassical architecture as executed by the handcrafted designs of Paul Schmitt.

**Historic Context**

In May 1854, President Pierce signed the Kansas and Nebraska Act officially opening the land for white settlement. The United States government signed a treaty with the Kansa and Osage that ceded their claims of tribal lands to what would become northeastern Kansas. George Million who reportedly had been in the area since 1841 ran a trading post outfitting settlers and trading with the Kansa and Osage. Million and Samuel Dickson, another early settler, made the first claims on the Atchison town site. The Atchison Town Company comprised of Dr. J.H. Stringfellow, Ira Norris, James Darnell, Leonidas Oldham, James Martin, David Rice Atchison, Elijah Green, E.H. Norton, Peter Abell, B.F. Stringfellow, Lewis Burnes, Calvin Burnes, and Stephen Johnson formed on July 11, 1854 and bought out Million and Dickson. The town company held its first sale of lots on September 21, 1854 and Atchison was incorporated on August 30, 1855 by a special act of the territorial legislature<sup>1</sup>.

Atchison was laid out in a grid system at the banks of the Missouri River along the narrow valley of White Clay Creek. The commercial district developed along the north side of White Clay Creek and the industrial district along the south side of the Creek along the Missouri River banks. Residential districts developed adjacent to the commercial and industrial districts. The nominated property is located in Original Atchison, also known as Old Atchison, the first area of the city to be platted. Platting of the surrounding area soon followed: North Atchison in 1857 by Dr. Stringfellow, Samuel Dickson platted South Atchison in 1858, L.C. Challiss platted West Atchison in 1858 and Spring Garden in 1860 by G.T. Challiss.

After the Civil War, Atchison began a long decline partly due to the downturn as a major westward expansion Missouri River shipping point and a fire in June 1867 that destroyed a significant number of buildings on Commercial Street between Fourth and Fifth Streets. Atchison turned its sights toward the supplying the surrounding vicinity and began buying and selling goods to the settlements in northeastern Kansas.

Carl Schmitt, uncle of Paul Schmitt, came to this country from Heiligsdorf, Germany arriving in Atchison in 1879. He worked in the August Mangelsdorf grocery store in Atchison until he purchased the store at 11<sup>th</sup> and Division Streets<sup>2</sup>. He is listed in the 1903 City directory as being in business at 11<sup>th</sup> and Division. The 1910 Directory of Atchison City and County lists Paul J. Schmitt as the owner of the grocery located at 923 N. 11<sup>th</sup> Street. Carl's obituary says that he retired from the grocery business in 1922. Paul is listed as the proprietor from 1910 until he sold

<sup>1</sup> Wolfenbarger, Deon. *Atchison Historic Resources Survey Analysis: Summary Report*. September 25, 1998. pp 10-11.

<sup>2</sup> Atchison Daily Globe, 11/14/1946, pg. 6



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 2

Schmitt House  
Name of property

Atchison, Kansas  
County and State

the business for Ben Scarlett<sup>3</sup>. Paul was a grocer for 40 years at this location. He was forced to retire because of ill health and died in 1956. The grocery store and meat market, as it was listed in the 1913 City directory, was a family affair with Paul's uncle Carl and father George working in the store. George traveled for a wholesale packing firm until he retired in 1915 and came to work at the grocery store.

Paul was born April 17, 1884 to George and Carrie Schmitt in Atchison. He married Corina Schaefer of Atchison on April 23, 1911. The couple moved into the house next door to the store at 1110 N. Division Street. The Schmitt family owned the property at 1110 N. Division until the current owner, William Forsberg, purchased the property from the Schmitt estate in 1980.

**Criterion C - Architecture**

Neoclassical architecture was popular in America from about 1895 to 1950 and was widely used for public buildings and residences alike. It is based on the forms of classical architecture and was stimulated by the Columbian Exposition at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893<sup>4</sup>. Although most commonly executed in stone, the vernacular interpretation was often executed in wood.

Key characteristics of the Neoclassical Style include a full-width portico, wood or stone classical columns, pilasters, commonly a side gabled roof, modillions and dentils below the eaves, wide frieze, windows occurring in pairs and sometimes tripartite with the upper sash having multiple panes and a lower sash with the same number of panes or only a single pane and a doorway at the center of the façade with a decorative surround based on the Greek Revival style. The one-story Neoclassical cottages have prominent central dormers and a colonnaded porch included under the main roof.

The Schmitt House exhibits the key characteristics of the Neoclassical Style architecture in its colonnaded full front porch, prominent dormers and window treatments. The craftsmanship of the architectural details and interior wood trim and details also represent the characteristics of this popular style. This one-and-one-half-story house has remained unchanged since the 1911 modification and qualifies for listing in the National Register under Criterion C.

<sup>3</sup> The Atchison Daily Globe, March 16, 1955, pg 1

<sup>4</sup> Harris, Cyril M. *American Architecture: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*. Norton & Company: New York, pg. 224

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section   9   Page   1  

Schmitt House  
Name of property

Atchison County, Kansas  
County and State

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Bright, John D., Ph.D. *Kansas: The First Century, Vol. II.* (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc., 1956).

Carley, Rachel. *The Visual Dictionary of American Domestic Architecture.* (New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1997).

*History of the State of Kansas.* (Chicago: A. T. Andreas Publishing, 1883).

Ingalls, Sheffield. *History of Atchison County Kansas: Illustrated.* (Lawrence, Kansas: Standard Publishing Company, 1916).

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses.* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984).

Maliszewski-Pickart, Margaret. *Architecture and Ornament.* (North Carolina: MacFarland and Company, 1998).

Sanborn Insurance Company maps, Atchison, Kansas, 1883, 1887, 1891, 1896, 1901, 1910, 1916, 1924.

Wolfenbarger, Deon. *Atchison Historic Resources Survey Analysis: Summary Report.* September 25, 1998.

The Atchison Daily Globe, April 27, 1942.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 1

Schmitt House  
Name of property

Atchison County, Kansas  
County and State

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The nominated property is located on a corner lot on the south side of North Division Street. The legal description of the property is the east 75 feet of the west 200 feet of lot 1, Block 5, Old Atchison.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The boundary is the original location of the property.

**PHOTOGRAPHS**

The following information is consistent for all photographs:

1. Schmitt House
2. Atchison Co., Kansas
3. Photograph by Kathy L. Morgan
4. October 18, 2004
5. Negative on file at KSHS

The following information is specific to each photograph:

<u>Photo #</u>	<u>Description of View</u>
1.	View from the north
2.	View from the northwest
3.	View from the southwest
4.	View from the east/northeast
5.	View of porch pediment from the north
6.	View of dormer window from the north
7.	View of garage from the west
8.	Looking from dining room to front parlor
9.	Looking from dining room into front bedroom
10.	Front parlor and staircase
11.	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor hallway
12.	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor bedroom
13.	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor bedroom alcove
14.	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor bedroom with dormer window
15.	View of parlor & living room from staircase
16.	Kitchen
17.	Ice house room above garage

